(I) Quality Improvement

(i) Supply of polythene sheets for drying chillies and turmeric under hygienic condition and to avoid incidence of aflatoxin.

(ii) Assist the growers in the construction of concrete/ cemented frying yards in the farmers' field.

(iii) Educate the growers on cultivation, pre and post harvest handling in selected chilli growing villages, for eliminating pesticide residues in the final product.

(iv) Training on quality improvement of chilli and turmeric (growers, officers of the State Agriculture/Horticulture Departments, traders and NGOs).

(II) Special programmes for promoting export of chilli in Guntur and Warangal District of Andhra Pradesh

(i) Popularising integrated pest management practices.

(ii) Renovating godown number two of Agriculture Market Committee at Guntur and construction of a drying yard near to the godown for drying and storing export quality chillies.

(iii) Strengthening the central Agmark lab in Guntur by providing equipments i.e. high performance liquid chromatograph (HPLC) and gas chromatograph (GC) to analyse pesticide residue and imparting training to the chemists attached to the lab at Guntur.

(iv) Implementing two farmer field school (FFS) for educating the growers on integrated pest management in chillies through the NGOs identified under UNDP.

(III) Spices Board has opened a Regional Office at Hyderabad and a Zonal Office at Guntur for implementing and monitoring the activities of the Board.

The continuation of above programmes is proposed by the Spices Board along with the market development oriented programmes during the next two years subject to the specific requirement/demands by exporters of spices.

Money generated through disinvestment in PSUs

335. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money generated through disinvestment from the Public Sector Undertakings, so far;

(b) the utilisation of the so generated money, sector-wise; and

(c) whether expected results accrued from the utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) An amount of Rs. 18,394 crores have been realised from disinvestment in various PSUs from the year 1991-92 till 31/1/2000. This amount has been deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India. 10% of the disinvestment proceeds are earmarked for use for strengthening of Public Sector Enterprises. Budgetary support exceeding 10% allocation has been provided to PSUs.

Granting autonomy to 15 Blue Chip PSUs

336. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have till date taken any final decision of granting of autonomy to 15 blue chip public sector undertakings in the country and place them under a National Shareholding Trust, as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 19th November, 1999;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, particularly in Rajasthan and Orissa, unit-wise and State-wise; and

(c) if not, how much more time Government are likely to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Government has not so far taken any decision on the proposal for setting up National Shareholding Trust.

Target set for selling of shares of Public Institutions

†337. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government, had fixed a target of getting Rs. 10,000 crores during the current financial year by selling the shares of public institutions;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.